

10/542407

Atty. Dkt. No. 040302-0472

JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 15 JUL 2005

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Keiko KUSHIBIKI et al.

Title: FUEL CELL SYSTEM AND RELATED METHOD

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: 07/15/2005

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

Except as noted below, a copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Documents A1-A9 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 were cited as being relevant during a search of the corresponding International application. Copies of these documents are not being provided since copies should have been provided directly by WIPO under an exchange program between the PTO, the EPO and the JPO. A copy of the International Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

The relevance of non-English language document A10 is described in the present specification.

Unless otherwise indicated, no English translation is readily available (not considering machine-generated translations that may be freely available online, to both the Applicant and the PTO) for each of the non-English language documents. However, a commercially available English language abstract is provided herewith, where indicated on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. Inasmuch as Applicants have endeavored to provide at least one item that complies with the requirement for a “concise explanation of relevance” for each of the non-English language documents, each of these documents has been submitted in compliance with the PTO requirements and should be considered by the Examiner (37 CFR §1.97, §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By \_\_\_\_\_

  
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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO				Complete if Known <b>117542407</b>	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number Unassigned	
Date Submitted: July 15, 2005				Filing Date 07/15/2005	
(use as many sheets as necessary)				First Named Inventor Keiko KUSHIBIKI	
Sheet	1	of	1	Group Art Unit Unassigned	Examiner Name Unassigned
				Attorney Docket Number 040302-0472	

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
A1	5,866,090			NAKAGAWA ET AL.	02-02-1999	
A2	5,079,103			SCHRAMM	01-07-1992	
A3	4,921,765			GMEINDL ET AL.	05-01-1990	

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	A4	EP	0 521 185	A1	ISHIKAWAJIMA-HARIMA HEAVY INDUSTRIES CO., LTD.	01-07-1993		
	A5	JP	62-237673	A	SANYO ELECTRIC CO., LTD.	10-17-1987		
	A6	JP	62-274561	A	MITSUBISHI HEAVY IND. LTD.	11-28-1987		
	A7	FR	1 436 747		GAZ DE FRANCE	04-29-1966		
	A8	EP	0 376 219	A1	ISHIKAWAJIMA-HARIMA HEAVY INDUSTRIES CO., LTD.	07-04-1990		
	A9	EP	0 550 892	A1	KABUSHIKI KAISHA TOSHIBA	07-14-1993		
	A10	JP	11-26004	A	TOSHIBA CORP.	01-29-1999		Abst.

#### NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.